

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are currently pending and under consideration in the instant application. No amendments are made in this communication, so Claims 1-19 remain pending and under consideration in their present form.

I. RELATED APPLICATIONS

For the PTO's convenience, Applicants hereby identify applications related to the currently pending matter.

Including the present application, Applicants have four pending applications relating to specific and sensitive methods for detecting nucleic acids, as described in Table 1, below. U.S. Application No. 10/322,138 is a divisional application of Application No. 09/530,476.

<u>U.S. Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Attorney Docket No.</u>
09/530,746	May 4, 2000	1803-277-999
09/530,747	May 4, 2000	1803-302-999
09/530,929	May 4, 2000	1803-303-999
10/322,138	December 17, 2002	1803-356-999

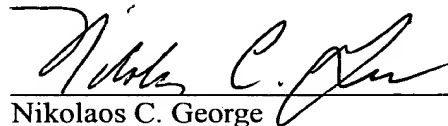
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-19 satisfy all of the criteria for patentability and are in condition for allowance. An early indication of the same and passage of Claims 1-19 to issuance is therefore kindly solicited.

No fees is believed due in connection with this communication. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge all required fees, fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 and all required extension of time fees throughout pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment, to Pennie & Edmonds LLP U.S. Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

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